

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data transmitting apparatus comprising:
 - a stream input unit which inputs digital-encoded stream data;
 - 5 a buffer which executes buffering of the inputted stream data;
 - a converting unit which converts information including the stream data on which buffering has been executed by the buffer, into a file according to a capacity of the buffer; and
 - 10 a transmitting unit which transmits the file converted by the converting unit.
2. The data transmitting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a buffer capacity control unit which variably controls the capacity of the buffer.
- 15 3. The data transmitting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the buffer includes a first buffer which executes buffering of stream data relating to normal playback, and a second buffer which executes buffering of stream data relating to special playback.
- 20 4. A data transmitting/receiving system, comprising:
 - a data transmitting apparatus; and
 - 25 a data receiving apparatus,the data transmitting apparatus including:
 - a stream input unit which inputs digital-encoded

stream data,

a first buffer which executes buffering of the inputted stream data,

a converting unit which converts information including the stream data on which buffering has been executed by the first buffer, into a file according to a capacity of the buffer, and

a transmitting unit which transmits the file converted by the converting unit,

the data receiving apparatus including:

a second buffer which inputs the file transmitted from the data transmitting apparatus, and

a playback processing unit which plays back stream data from the file inputted to the second buffer.

5. The data transmitting/receiving system according to claim 4, wherein the capacity of the first buffer is smaller than a capacity of the second buffer.

6. The data transmitting/receiving system according to claim 4, wherein the data transmitting apparatus further includes a buffer capacity control unit which variably controls the capacity of the first buffer.

7. The data transmitting/receiving system as recited in claim 4 wherein said data receiving unit is operative for transmitting to said data transmitting apparatus information specifying the size of said second buffer.

8. The data transmitting/receiving system as recited in claim 7, wherein said data transmitting apparatus is responsive to said size information to control the content of said first buffer to be less
5 that or equal to the size of said first buffer as designated by said size information.

9. The data transmitting/receiving system as recited in claim 6 wherein said data receiving unit is operative for transmitting to said data transmitting
10 apparatus information specifying the size of said second buffer.

10. The data transmitting/receiving system as recited in claim 9 wherein said buffer capacity control unit is responsive to said size information to control
15 the content of said first buffer to be less that or equal to the size of said first buffer as designated by said size information.

11. The data transmitting/receiving system according to claim 4, wherein said data receiving
20 apparatus includes a communication unit and transmits a speed request to said data transmitting apparatus designating a speed at which the file is requested to be sent to said data receiving apparatus.

12. The data transmitting/receiving system according to claim 4, wherein said data receiving
25 apparatus includes a communication unit and transmits a speed special playback request to said data

transmitting apparatus designating a special playback at which the file is requested to be sent to said data receiving apparatus.

13. The data transmitting/receiving system
5 according to claim 4, wherein the first buffer includes one buffer which executes buffering of stream data relating to normal playback and another buffer which executes buffering of stream data relating to special playback.

10 14. A data transmitting/receiving method of executing transmission/reception of data between a data transmitting apparatus and a data receiving apparatus, the method comprising:

requesting playback from the data receiving
15 apparatus to the data transmitting apparatus; and

converting digital-encoded stream data into stream data suitable for the playback requested, in the data transmitting apparatus, and storing the stream data in a buffer, converting information including the stream
20 data on which buffering has been executed by the buffer, into a file according to a capacity of the buffer, and transmitting the converted file from the data transmitting apparatus to the data receiving apparatus.

25 15. The data transmitting/receiving method according to claim 14, further comprising variably controlling the capacity of the buffer.

16. The data transmitting/receiving method
according to claim 14, wherein the buffer is arranged
to include a first buffer which executes buffering of
stream data relating to normal playback and a second
5 buffer which executes buffering of stream data relating
to special playback.

17. The data transmitting/receiving method
according to claim 14 wherein the step of requesting
playback from the data receiving apparatus to the data
10 transmitting apparatus includes specifying a speed
parameter by said receiving apparatus.

18. The data transmitting/receiving method
according to claim 14 wherein the step of requesting
playback from the data receiving apparatus to the data
15 transmitting apparatus includes specifying a special
playback parameter by said receiving apparatus.